the postal services. The operation of private couriers is the result of a new demand for express mail service from the business and industrial sections. The traditional mail services were not fully equippd to meet the new demand of the market segment, but is now equipping itself for it.

There are instances of failure to deliver mail in time. But they are not so widespread as to give any ground for generalisation Most of the Dak is delivered in time. No instances of destruction of mails have come to notice.

(b) The Post's reply to the competition from the couriers is the new service called 'Speed Post' which is bcoming more and more popular as reflected in the increase in its annual turnover from Rs. 2. 7 crores in 1987 to Rs. 8. 4 crores in 1989.

The arrangement for mail transmission and distribution are constantly reviewed and revised whenever necessary. Besides this, the Department of Posts is making use of technology in selected areas to improve efficiency and productivity.

Persons killed by terrorists

284. SHRI DEBABRATA BISWAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons killed by terrorists during last three months, Statewise; and

(b) the number of security-men killed or injured during the last three months in each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House. 413 RS—6,

New Indo-Soviet Accord

285. SHRI DEBABRATA BISWAS:
SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:
SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV:
SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA:
SHRI PRABHAKAR B. KORE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL. AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the recent **Indo-**Soviet Accord;

(b) what are the achievements in socio-economic and political fields;

(c) whether Government of India propose to bring Perestroika or Clasnost in diffierent form in India; and

(d) if so, what would be the Plan thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL); (a) and (b) During the Prime Minister's official visit to the Soviet Union on 23—26 July, 1990 a Joint Statement, a Memorandum of Understanding on economic issues, and an Information Agreement were signed. Copies of these documents are laid on the Table of the House. (See Appendiv CLV, Annexure No. 8) Comprehensive discussions were held in the traditional spirit of warmth and friendliness covering both bilateral and international issues. The Soviet leadership-expressed their "full understanding and support" for India's stand on Kashmir.

(c) and (d) "Perestroika" and "glasnost" are Russian words that describe the ongoing policy of restructuring and openness in the Soviet Union. India has to evolve its own policies in accordance with its specific requirements and conditions.